

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The office action mailed October 5, 2006, has been carefully reviewed and these remarks are responsive to that office action. Reconsideration and allowance of this application are respectfully requested.

Claims 1-7 are pending in this application, claim 8 is cancelled, claims 9-19 are withdrawn, and claim 20 is newly added.

Claims 1-7 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bower (U.S. Patent 2,767,113) in view of MacMurray (U.S. Patent 3,290,854).

Bower and MacMurray do not support a proper prima facie case of obviousness of claim 1 because these references, either alone or in combination, do not disclose, teach, or suggest "a first and a second plastic resin having different melt indices such that, upon the first and second plastic resins being melted together into a melt blend, the melt blend being applied to the metal wire, and the melt blend then being cooled so that the melt blend solidifies, the difference between the first plastic resin's melt index and the second plastic resin's melt index causes formation of a roughened outer surface of the textured coating that reduces slippage of the textured wire tie on itself when twisted, or slippage during handling."

Claim 1 is directed to a textured wire tie comprising a frictional textured coating adhered to a surface of a metal wire, wherein the coating comprises a first and a second plastic resin having different melt indices such that, upon the first and second plastic resins being melted together into a melt blend, the melt blend being applied to the metal wire, and the melt blend then being cooled so that the melt blend solidifies, the difference between the first plastic resin's melt index and the second plastic resin's melt index causes formation of a roughened outer surface of the textured coating that reduces slippage of the textured wire tie on itself when twisted, or slippage during handling.

Bower discloses a plant tie having a wire reinforcement in a waterproof tie-strap and a method of effecting a lasting bond between the wire and the strip. As indicated on page 2 of the office action mailed January 30, 2006, Bower does not teach that the wire's coating is textured.

MacMurray discloses plastic covered wire ties particularly adapted for sealing plastic and open mesh type bags. The wire coating is serrated such that projections are formed that interlock with each other to prevent the wire ties from slipping. MacMurray does not disclose, teach, or

suggest using first and second plastic resins that have different melt indices such that, upon the first and second plastic resins being melted together into a melt blend, the melt blend being applied to the metal wire, and the melt blend then being cooled so that the melt blend solidifies, the difference between the first plastic resin's melt index and the second plastic resin's melt index causes formation of a roughened outer surface of the textured coating that reduces slippage of the textured wire tie on itself when twisted, or slippage during handling.

For at least the foregoing reasons, Bower and MacMurray do not support a proper prima facie case of obviousness of claim 1. As such, claim 1 patentably distinguishes over Bower in view of MacMurray and is, therefore, in condition for allowance.

Claim 20 contains limitations that are analogous to the limitations discussed above in connection with claim 1. Claim 20 recites, "a frictional textured coating adhered to a surface of a metal wire having a tensile strength of between about 30,000 to about 75,000 pounds per square inch, wherein the coating comprises a first plastic resin having a first melt index between about 14 to about 19 and a second plastic resin having a second melt index between about 0.3 to about 0.9 such that, upon the first and second plastic resins being melted together into a melt blend, the melt blend being applied to the metal wire, and the melt blend then being cooled so that the melt blend solidifies, the difference between the first plastic resin's melt index and the second plastic resin's melt index causes formation of a roughened outer surface of the textured coating that reduces slippage of the textured wire tie on itself when twisted, or slippage during handling." As such, claim 20 is in condition for allowance for at least reasons similar to those discussed above in connection with claim 1.

Claims 2-7 are proper dependent claims and are, therefore, also in condition for allowance.

CONCLUSION

It is believed that no fee is required for this submission. If any fees are required or if an overpayment is made, the Commissioner is authorized to debit or credit our Deposit Account No. 19-0733, accordingly.

All rejections having been addressed, applicant respectfully submits that this application is in condition for allowance, and respectfully requests issuance of a notice of allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: January 5, 2007

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